

In signing this legislation today, I underscore this Administration's commitment to address the needs of medically underserved inner city and rural areas. The programs reauthorized by S. 1044 will play a critical role in ensuring access to cost-effective, high-quality preventive and primary health care services and improving the health status of the Nation's most vulnerable populations.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
October 11, 1996.

NOTE: S. 1044, approved October 11, was assigned Public Law No. 104-299.

### **Statement on Signing the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Settlement Act of 1996**

*October 11, 1996*

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1973, an Act that will help resolve a century-old dispute between the Hopi Tribe and the Navajo Nation over the use of Hopi Reservation Land in northern Arizona.

This bill will implement a settlement reached last December after 5 years of negotiation among the Navajo families that live on Hopi land, the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and the United States. This historic settlement constitutes a courageous step by the people of two honorable tribes toward coexistence in peace and mutual respect.

The settlement is a consensual resolution of an age-old problem. It creates a way for Navajo families now residing on Hopi land to lawfully remain at the homesites where their families have lived for many generations. At the same time, it preserves the Hopi Tribe's right to exercise jurisdiction over its land. It is based on principles of self-determination for the Tribes and human dignity for all tribal members. With this settlement, both tribes now will be able to devote their efforts and resources to important educational, health, and economic development programs for the Navajo and Hopi people.

The settlement was achieved only through the concerted efforts of many people. I take this opportunity to express appreciation in particular to Hopi Tribal Chairman Ferrell Secakuku and Navajo Nation President Al-

bert Hale for their commitment to a peaceful resolution. I also wish to thank the Navajo residents of the Hopi Partitioned Lands—who have dedicated countless hours to negotiating these difficult issues. Further thanks are in order for the residents and the State and local governmental representatives of Arizona who have worked with the negotiating teams, and to the Department of the Interior. Finally, I want to acknowledge the role of the Department of Justice, which took the lead for the United States in these negotiations.

This bipartisan bill and the historic settlement it ratifies give us great cause for hope. The Navajo and the Hopi have embarked upon a course of reconciliation concerning an issue—religious and historical claims to land—that has led to disharmony in other places across the globe. We should build upon this success as we plan for a future together based on cooperation and mutual respect.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
October 11, 1996.

NOTE: S. 1973, approved October 11, was assigned Public Law No. 104-301.

### **Statement on Action Against International Drug Trafficking**

*October 11, 1996*

I want to congratulate Attorney General Reno, Treasury Secretary Rubin, their crime fighting teams, and all law enforcement officers who worked to ensure the breakup of another notorious international drug ring through Operation Global S.E.A. Building on the success of this May's Operation Zorro II, the breakup of this drug network marks another milestone in our effort to cripple major international drug trafficking cartels.

I want to commend the unprecedented cooperation between frontline law enforcement agencies on the Federal, State, and local levels that brought down this narcotic network. My administration will continue to work with determination to track down and convict those who would threaten our communities and our children.

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**Digest of Other  
White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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**October 6**

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled from Chautauqua, NY, to Hartford, CT.

**October 7**

In the morning, the President traveled to Stamford, CT. In the afternoon, he traveled to Manchester, NH. In the evening, he traveled to Portland, ME. The President then returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

**October 9**

In an evening ceremony in the Oval Office, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors U Tin Winn of Burma; Veiccoh Nghiwete of Namibia; Antonio de Oyarzabal of Spain; Edith Ssempala of Uganda; Eliyahu Ben-Elissar of Israel; Sadik Safaev of Uzbekistan; Eduardo Morgan Gonzalez of Panama; Rufino Mendes of Guinea Bissau; James Murphy of Belize; and John Ernest Leigh of Sierra Leone.

Later in the evening, the President attended a reception for Arkansas Democratic congressional candidate Marion Berry at a private residence in Rosslyn, VA.

**October 10**

In the morning, the President traveled to Knoxville, TN. In the afternoon, he traveled to Dayton, OH. In the evening, he traveled to Louisville, KY. The President then returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

The President announced his intention to designate Nicolas P. Retsinas as Acting Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury.

**October 11**

The White House announced that the President will meet with Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri of Lebanon at the White House on October 18.

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**Nominations  
Submitted to the Senate**

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NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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**Checklist  
of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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**Released October 5**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry and Clinton/Gore '96 Press Secretary Joe Lockhart in Chautauqua, NY

**Released October 7**

Transcript of a press briefing by Business Leaders for Clinton/Gore '96 national chairman Eli Segal, Press Secretary Mike McCurry, Clinton/Gore '96 Press Secretary Joe Lockhart, and White House Director of Political Affairs Doug Sosnik

Transcript of remarks by Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Nancy E. Soderberg at the Conference on Trade and Investment in Ireland in Pittsburgh, PA

**Released October 8**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on the terrorist attack at the military base in Lisburn, Northern Ireland

Advance text of remarks by National Security Adviser Anthony Lake at the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Georgetown University

**Released October 9**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry and Director of the Of-